Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /131 W --------300500Z 029039 /13

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 2376

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: GATT, ETRD, AU

SUBJ: NEGOTIATIONS WITH AUSTRIA: MOTOR VEHICLE SURTAX

REF: 76 STATE 300939

IN RESPONSE TO INFORMATION IN REFTEL WHICH WE PRESENTED TO AUSTRIAN MISSION, GENEVA, IN LETTER DATED 14 DECEMBER, WE HAVE RECEIVED FOLLOWING REPLY:

"WITH REFERENCE TO YOUR LETTER OF DECEMBER 14TH, 1976, CONCERNING INFORMATION ON THE US-BINDING ON SKI BOOTS, MY AUTHORITIES HAVE INSTRUCTED ME TO FORWARD TO YOU THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

"THE AGREEMENT ON THE MODIFICATION OF AUSTRIA'S ROAD TAX SYSTEM HAS TO BE SEEN IN THE LIGHT OF THE 'AGREED MINUTES' CONCERNING THE BILATERAL MEETINGS OF MAY 1ST AND JUNE 16TH, 1967, WHICH STIPULATE THE FOLLOWING:

"'IN THE EVENT OF AN ARTICLE XXVIII NEGOTIATIONS AS RE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FERRED TO IN THE AUSTRIAN LETTER MENTIONED ON PAGE ONE, THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION OR OF COMPENSATORY MODIFICATION OR WITHDRAWAL SHALL TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE VALUE OF CONCESSIONS GRANTED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR THE REDUCTION OF THE AUSTRIAN MOTOR VEHICLE TAX ON MOTOR VEHICLES WITH A CYLINDER CAPACITY OF MORE THAN 2.500 CCM.'

"AS SET OUT IN THESE MINUTES THE CONCESSIONS GRANTED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AS COMPENSATION TO AUSTRIA ARE TSUS 651.11 (MANICURE SETS) AND TSUS EX 700.27 (SKI BOOTS). ACCORDING TO THE AUSTRIAN FILES THIS AGREEMENT HAS NOT BEEN AMENDED SINCE IT WAS REACHED IN 1967; IT SEEMS THEREFORE THAT THE AMENDMENTS MADE TO THE TSUS IN THE MEANTIME DID NOT AFFECT THE AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN OUR TWO DELEGATIONS ON TSUS 700.27.

"THE AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT AND IN PARTICULAR ANY INFORMATION ON AUSTRIA'S RIGHTS WITH RESPECT TO TSUS 700.27 UNDER THE 'AGREED MINUTES'. IN PARTICULAR, A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF TSUS 700.27 AS IT WAS IN FORCE ON JUNE 16TH, 1967, AND ANY INFORMATION ON THE WAYS AND MEANS BY WHICH AUSTRIA'S GATT-RIGHTS HAVE BEEN SECURED SINCE THEN WOULD ASSIST THEM IN THE ASSESSMENT OF THE LEGAL SITUATION."SORENSON

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Message Attributes

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